

ELLEN F. ROSENBLUM  
Attorney General



MARY H. WILLIAMS  
Deputy Attorney General

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**  
GENERAL COUNSEL DIVISION

April 29, 2013

Attention: Filing Center  
Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
550 Capitol Street NE, #215  
P.O. Box 2148  
Salem, OR 97301-2148  
puc.filingcenter@state.or.us

Re: *In the Matter of PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON Staff Investigation into  
Qualifying Facility Contracting and Pricing*  
PUC Docket No.: UM 1610  
DOJ File No.: 330-030-GN0240-12

On behalf of the Oregon Department of Energy, enclosed for filing with the Commission  
in the above-captioned matter are an original and five copies of the Reply Testimony of Philip  
Carver and Reply Testimony of Tom Elliot.

Sincerely,

Renee M France  
Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Natural Resources Section

Enclosures  
RMF:jrs/#4160111  
c: UM 1610 Service List (electronic copies only)

DOCKET NO. UM 1610  
EXHIBIT: ODOE/400  
WITNESS: PHILIP CARVER

**Before the  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON**

**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Reply testimony of Philip Carver**

**April 29, 2013**

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ORGANIZATION.**

2 A. I am Phil Carver with the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE). I am the  
3 same witness as in ODOE/100.

4 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS REPLY TESTIMONY?**

5 A. I will address adjustments to payments to Qualifying Facilities (QFs) (Issues  
6 1A and 4A) for capacity credits, integration costs and savings of transmission  
7 losses, as well as contract renewal (Issue 1C), the appropriate wholesale  
8 electricity hub (Issue 1A) and environmental attributes (Issue 2B).

9 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR REPLY TESTIMONY.**

10 A. I support Staff's recommendation that any perceived mismatches between the  
11 value of purchases from QFs and the avoided cost payments made to QFs be  
12 addressed by making appropriate adjustments to the avoided cost payments,  
13 not by lowering the 10 megawatt (MW) eligibility cap for standard contracts.  
14 ODOE witness Tom Elliott will address the 10 MW eligibility cap in his  
15 testimony.

16 For the compliance filings, I caution against adjusting the avoided cost  
17 prices paid to wind and solar QFs to account for capacity contribution as  
18 recommended by Staff. This issue is technically complex and utilities have  
19 not addressed it correctly in their integrated resource plans (IRPs). I do  
20 support adjusting for the integration costs of wind generation as the IRP  
21 analysis of this issue is more mature. The determination of the value of  
22 capacity contributions and integration costs is likely to trigger evidentiary  
23 proceedings when avoided cost rates are set, at least initially.

1 If the Commission decides to explicitly address the capacity credit for wind,  
2 it should also do so for solar photovoltaic (PV) QFs. Solar PV QFs should  
3 receive at least a 30 percent capacity credit until the electric companies have  
4 calculated the solar capacity contribution. I recommend that solar QFs not be  
5 charged for integration until the electric companies have demonstrated there  
6 are material integration costs for solar generation.

7 I support OneEnergy's recommendations that QFs at or below 3 MW that  
8 are connected directly to the electric company's distribution system receive a  
9 3.9 percent adder for avoided transmission losses and should receive longer  
10 fixed-price contracts. Instead of OneEnergy's recommendation for a 25-year  
11 fixed-price contract, however, I recommend maintaining the current contract  
12 term of up to 20 years, modified to allow QFs up to 3 MW to receive fixed  
13 prices throughout the entire term and not just the first 15 years.

14 I support the Renewable Energy Coalition's ("Coalition") recommendation  
15 that existing QFs renewing their contracts receive resource deficiency pricing  
16 for the next contract, up to a length set by the Commission.

17 As a change to my previous testimony, I recommend using either the  
18 California-Oregon Border wholesale market hub or the Mid-Columbia hub,  
19 based on QF location, to set prices during the resource sufficiency period.

20 Finally, I recommend moving Issue 2B (definition of environmental  
21 attributes) into phase two of this docket.

22 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR VIEWS ON CALCULATING CAPACITY**  
23 **CREDITS FOR WIND AND SOLAR PV QFS.**

1 A. The capacity credits for wind in the electric companies' IRPs deserve more  
2 scrutiny before the values are appropriate for an avoided cost compliance  
3 filing. If the Commission chooses to address capacity credits explicitly, it  
4 should insist that the values are calculated using an effective load carrying  
5 capability (ELCC) method or other method that provides equivalent *annual*  
6 reliability under two scenarios – one with planned levels of wind and the other  
7 without such resources. The Commission should expect that requiring an  
8 explicit capacity credit for wind will trigger an evidentiary proceeding when  
9 avoided cost rates are set, at least initially.

10 If the Commission requires an explicit capacity credit for wind, it should also  
11 do so for solar. These are the two QF resources with substantial variability.  
12 Also, these two resources are likely to be the dominant renewable sources  
13 through 2025.

14 **Q. WHAT CAPACITY CREDIT DO YOU RECOMMEND FOR SOLAR PV QFS?**

15 A. Current estimates of solar capacity credits in electric companies' IRPs, to the  
16 extent they exist, are unreliable. Until such time as electric companies  
17 provide ELCC or other reliable values, the Commission should order the  
18 companies to assume a 30 percent capacity credit for solar PV systems.

19 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS OF YOUR PROPOSED 30 PERCENT CAPACITY**  
20 **CREDIT VALUE FOR SOLAR?**

21 A. This value is for Portland General Electric (PGE) from *Reaching Consensus*  
22 *in the Definition of Photovoltaics Capacity Credit in the USA: A Practical*  
23 *Application of Satellite-Derived Solar Resource Data*, by R. Perez, M.

1 Taylor, T. Hoff, and J.P. Ross.<sup>1</sup> This study uses a Garver approximation  
2 method. It is a conservative value because PGE's service area has more  
3 clouds than the Oregon service areas for PacifiCorp and Idaho Power. Also,  
4 PGE has a stronger winter peak which tends to reduce the ELCC capacity  
5 credit.

6 **Q. WHAT INTEGRATION COSTS DO YOU PROPOSE FOR SOLAR PV QFS?**

7 A. For the compliance filings, zero integration costs should be applied to solar  
8 PV QFs. At current levels of PV penetration there are virtually zero solar  
9 integration costs. Otherwise, electric companies' load forecasting methods  
10 would include forecasts of PV output. Electric companies do not make such  
11 forecasts even though there are several commercially available methods.  
12 Only when electric companies start forecasting PV output ahead of the hour  
13 and have credible methods to calculate the costs of solar integration should  
14 the Commission include solar integration costs as part of prices paid to QFs.

15 **Q. WHY DO YOU PROPOSE THAT AVOIDED COST PRICES FOR SOLAR PV**  
16 **SYSTEMS NOT BE REDUCED BY THE COSTS OF WIND INTEGRATION?**

17 A. Although the integration studies by the three electric companies for wind  
18 resources are generally reasonable, wind and solar integration costs are quite  
19 different. There is no reason to expect that wind integration costs will be an

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<sup>1</sup> See the value on the graph for low PV penetration for PGE on page 6 of this article from an IEEE Journal on Selected Topics in Applied Earth Observations and Remote Sensing. Vol. 1, no. 1, 2008. (available at <http://www.asrc.cestm.albany.edu/perez/publications/Utility%20Peak%20Shaving%20and%20Capacity%20Credit/Papers%20on%20PV%20Load%20Matching%20and%20Economic%20Evaluation/Towards%20reaching%20consensus-08.pdf>)

1 accurate estimate of the costs for solar. As noted above, at current levels of  
2 penetration, solar integration costs are negligible.

3 **Q. SHOULD THE COMMISSION KEEP THE CURRENT METHOD FOR**  
4 **CALCULATING CAPACITY CREDITS FOR QFS OTHER THAN WIND AND**  
5 **SOLAR?**

6 A. Yes, the Commission should keep the current method for paying for capacity  
7 for resources other than wind and solar.

8 **Q. WHY NOT EXPLICITLY CALCULATE THE CAPACITY CREDIT FOR THESE**  
9 **OTHER RESOURCES?**

10 A. Resources such as hydro and biomass are not variable like wind and solar.  
11 The existing method is an appropriate estimate for other resources.

12 **Q. WHAT SHOULD THE COMMISSION ASSUME FOR INTEGRATION COSTS**  
13 **FOR THESE OTHER RESOURCES?**

14 A. The Commission should assume zero integration costs for resources other  
15 than wind.

16 **Q. WHAT SHOULD THE COMMISSION DECIDE ABOUT AVOIDED LINE**  
17 **LOSSES?**

18 A. The Commission should adjust QF prices for reduced line losses for QFs up  
19 to 3 MW that are connected to the distribution system. These projects will  
20 save the energy losses from the transmission of electricity from remote power  
21 plants to load centers. In some cases these QFs will also save some  
22 distribution losses. I support using the 3.9 percent adjustment value  
23 proposed by Bill Eddie (OneEnergy/100, at 36 and 37, lines 1-5). As he

1 notes, PacifiCorp has used this value for the company's transmission losses.<sup>2</sup>

2 I concur that for PacifiCorp a 3.9 percent value is likely a conservative value.

3 I also agree that if PGE or Idaho Power can demonstrate different values for  
4 transmission losses, then those values should be used for those utilities.

5 I also support Bill Eddie's recommendation to use 3 MW as the eligibility cap  
6 for this line loss adder (OneEnergy/100 at 34). I agree that if these projects  
7 are connected to the distribution system they will generally displace local  
8 loads. In contrast, both larger QFs and avoided utility generation or power  
9 purchases are likely to require transmission to get power to loads.

10 To be clear, I support retaining the 10 MW eligibility cap for standard  
11 contracts, as explained by ODOE witness Tom Elliott (ODOE/500), and  
12 offering some additional support to projects 3 MW and under that are  
13 connected to the distribution system for the additional benefits that they  
14 provide relative to larger QFs and utility generation or power purchases.

15 **Q. WHY WOULD YOU PROPOSE THIS CHANGE IN POLICY WHEN**  
16 **PREVIOUS COMMISSION ORDERS DECLINED TO CONSIDER AVOIDED**  
17 **TRANSMISSION LOSSES?**

18 A. In Order No. 05-584 the Commission declined to include integration costs for  
19 any renewable resources for QFs at or below 10 MW. It also declined to  
20 consider avoided transmission losses. These un-included costs tend to offset  
21 each other. If the Commission moves to increase accuracy by including

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<sup>2</sup> *PacifiCorp's Ten-Year Conservation Potential and 2012-2013 Biennial Conservation Target for its Washington Service Area*, pp. A3-6, A3-9 (Exhibit OneEnergy/115).



1 integration costs for some resources, it should also increase accuracy by  
2 recognizing reduced line losses for some resources.

3 **Q. DO YOU SUPPORT THE COALITION'S PROPOSAL<sup>3</sup> THAT RENEWAL**  
4 **CONTRACTS SHOULD RECEIVE RESOURCE DEFICIENCY PRICES FOR**  
5 **THE WHOLE NEW CONTRACT?**

6 A. That proposal has merit. PacifiCorp's 2011 Integrated Resource Plan Volume  
7 1<sup>4</sup> filed as part of LC 52 notes the following on page 98:

8 ***Qualifying Facilities (QF).** All QF that provide capacity and energy*  
9 *are included in this category. Like other power purchases, the capacity*  
10 *balance counts them at maximum system peak availability and the*  
11 *energy balance counts them by optimum model dispatch. It is*  
12 *assumed that all QF agreements will stay in place for the entire*  
13 *duration of the 20-year planning period. It should be noted that three*  
14 *of the QF resources (Kennecott, Tesoro, and US Magnesium) are*  
15 *considered non-firm and thus do not contribute to capacity planning.*

16 This quote indicates that PacifiCorp's IRP delays its commitment to firm  
17 resources based on the expectation of contract renewal. This is an  
18 appropriate planning principle. Under such planning, retail customers will  
19 avoid the costs of additional firm energy resources. The avoided cost price  
20 paid for renewed contracts should reflect that new firm resources are, or  
21 should be, deferred.

22 **Q. WHAT TERM DO YOU PROPOSE FOR FIXED PRICES FOR QFS AT OR**  
23 **BELOW 3 MW THAT ARE CONNECTED TO THE DISTRIBUTION**  
24 **SYSTEM?**

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<sup>3</sup> Coalition/100,Lowe/21-22

<sup>4</sup>

[http://www.pacificorp.com/content/dam/pacificorp/doc/Energy\\_Sources/Integrated\\_Resource\\_Plan/2011IRP/2011IRP-MainDocFinal\\_Vol1-FINAL.pdf](http://www.pacificorp.com/content/dam/pacificorp/doc/Energy_Sources/Integrated_Resource_Plan/2011IRP/2011IRP-MainDocFinal_Vol1-FINAL.pdf)

1 A. I propose that these projects be offered fixed-price contracts for 20 years.  
2 Such contracts would more closely parallel electric companies' 20-year  
3 contracts for many renewable energy purchases.<sup>5</sup> The amount of power  
4 contracted under such projects will be a tiny fraction of retail loads. This  
5 means the risks to retail customers during the 16th year through the 20<sup>th</sup> year  
6 will be minimal, while the increased ability to finance such projects will be  
7 substantial. If the utility secures fixed-price natural gas contracts for the  
8 incremental new combined-cycle combustion turbine power plant, then  
9 substituting a fixed-price 20-year contract with a QF would add no fixed-price  
10 risk. Also, while the avoided natural gas-fired plant may require transmission  
11 upgrades, it is unlikely that QF projects at or below 3 MW would. This  
12 uncompensated benefit of the smallest QFs is likely to more than  
13 counterbalance the possible small increase in risk from longer terms for fixed  
14 prices.

15 **Q. DO YOU PROPOSE CHANGES TO YOUR PROPOSAL TO ALWAYS USE**  
16 **THE MID-COLUMBIA WHOLESALE TRADING HUB FOR PRICES DURING**  
17 **THE RESOURCE SUFFICIENCY PERIOD?**

18 A. Yes, the California-Oregon Border (COB) price may be more appropriate for  
19 QFs in southern Oregon. Trading hub price differentials exist because of  
20 transmission constraints. If a QF is located below the transmission constraint,  
21 the electric company would have the ability to resell that power at the higher

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<sup>5</sup> OneEnergy/100, Eddie 39 at 3-9

1 COB price. This concept would only be applicable to QFs interconnecting  
2 with PacifiCorp.

3 **Q. WHAT MIGHT BE THE APPROPRIATE DIVIDING LINE FOR SUCH A**  
4 **DISTINCTION?**

5 A. I propose that QFs interconnecting to PacifiCorp lines south of either the  
6 Alvey transmission substation near Eugene or the Grizzly substation near  
7 Redmond receive prices based on the COB hub price. If PacifiCorp shows  
8 that there are recurring transmission constraints below these points, the  
9 Commission should consider moving the dividing line south. It is unlikely that  
10 there are commonly occurring transmission constraints between either  
11 Medford or Klamath Falls and the COB hub. Both cities sit virtually on top of  
12 the COB hub.

13 **Q. WHAT SHOULD THE COMMISSION DECIDE ABOUT CONTRACT**  
14 **LANGUAGE DEFINING ENVIRONMENTAL ATTRIBUTES (ISSUE 2B)?**

15 A. The definition of environmental attributes should be decided in phase two of  
16 this docket. We believe that consensus on this issue is possible if parties are  
17 given more time to develop and consider specific contract language.

18 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR REPLY TESTIMONY?**

19 A. Yes.

DOCKET NO. UM 1610  
EXHIBIT: ODOE/500  
WITNESS: TOM ELLIOTT

**Before the  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON**

**OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Reply testimony of Tom Elliott**

**April 29, 2013**

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME.**

2 A. Tom Elliott. I am the same witness as in ODOE/200.

3 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS REPLY TESTIMONY?**

4 A. I will be responding to OPUC Staff testimony regarding issue 5A (standard  
5 contract eligibility cap) and to the prior testimony and current resolution efforts  
6 on 6E (how contracts should address mechanical availability).

7 **Q. DOES THE DEPARTMENT AGREE WITH OPUC STAFF'S TESTIMONY<sup>1</sup>**  
8 **REGARDING WHETHER THE COMMISSION SHOULD CHANGE THE 10**  
9 **MW CAP FOR THE STANDARD CONTRACT? (ISSUE 5A)**

10 A. Yes and no. We agree with Staff's recommendation to keep the eligibility cap  
11 at 10 megawatts (MW). However, we disagree with Staff's alternate  
12 recommendation to lower the cap to 3 MW if no adjustments are made to the  
13 avoided cost payments.

14 **Q. COULD YOU PLEASE ELABORATE?**

15 A. The Summary on p. 1 of Order No. 05-584 (Docket UM 1129) states:

16 This Commission's goal has been to encourage the economically  
17 efficient development of these qualifying facilities (QFs), while  
18 protecting ratepayers by ensuring that utilities pay rates equal to that  
19 which they would have incurred in lieu of purchasing QF power.

20 This two-part goal is reiterated on p. 11 of that same order:

21 We seek to provide maximum incentives for the development of QFs of  
22 *all* sizes, while ensuring that ratepayers remain indifferent to the QF  
23 power by having utilities pay no more than their avoided costs.

24 Much of the Staff testimony regarding the 10 MW eligibility cap relates to the  
25 second part of that goal: to set accurate avoided costs to protect ratepayers.

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<sup>1</sup> Staff/100/Bless/35-38

1 The Department supports using accurate costs and protecting ratepayers, as  
2 described by ODOE witness Phil Carver (ODOE/400). However, we believe  
3 Staff's response testimony inadequately considers the first part of the  
4 Commission's goal: to encourage development of QFs.

5 **Q. HOW WOULD A REDUCTION OF THE ELIGIBILITY CAP AFFECT QF**  
6 **DEVELOPMENT?**

7 A. Reducing the eligibility cap would likely result in fewer small QF projects being  
8 developed in Oregon, as I discussed in my prior testimony on this issue  
9 (ODOE/200/Elliott/2-6). Having to negotiate a power purchase agreement  
10 (PPA) will result in higher transactions costs for a QF. These include direct  
11 legal costs of negotiation, and indirect costs passed on from the lender for  
12 contract review by legal and technical consultants. The higher transaction costs  
13 may cause some small QF projects not to be financially viable.

14 Additionally, requiring negotiated PPAs would significantly impact the  
15 financing and project development process. The Department's Small-scale  
16 Energy Loan Program (Loan Program), or any other lender, will not be able to  
17 assess the financial viability of a project, nor make a commitment to finance a  
18 project, until it can review the terms of a PPA, including prices and key clauses  
19 related to power delivery and any cause for default or termination. Without  
20 prices, a lender wouldn't be able to assess QF project revenues, and without  
21 knowing the revenues, the lender could not determine how much to lend or  
22 whether to lend to the QF.

1           Securing long term project financing is a critical step in the project  
2           development process. A QF developer needs a commitment for long term  
3           financing before securing construction financing and placing orders on long-  
4           lead-time equipment. Without a standard contract, a QF would need to  
5           negotiate a PPA, at its own expense, early in the process in order to find out if  
6           the project is viable and to be able to apply for financing. Some small QFs may  
7           choose not to risk this additional out-of-pocket legal expense just to determine  
8           whether their projects might be financially viable, and therefore may not move  
9           forward with them.

10       **Q. WHAT IS THE LOAN PROGRAM'S EXPERIENCE WITH PROJECTS**  
11       **BETWEEN 3 MW AND 10 MW IN SIZE?**

12       A. Half of the QF loan applications we have received since Commission Order No.  
13       05-584 raised the limit for standard contract eligibility to 10 MW have fallen into  
14       the 3 MW to 10 MW capacity range. The Loan Program processed 14 QF loan  
15       applications during that time, seven of which were 3 MW or smaller and seven  
16       of which were between 3 MW and 10 MW<sup>2</sup>. If the eligibility cap had been 3  
17       MW instead of 10 MW, half of our applicants would have had to incur additional  
18       costs to negotiate their PPAs. As stated in my response testimony, several of  
19       those same QF developers told us unequivocally that they did not believe their  
20       QF projects would have been built if they had to negotiate their PPAs.

21       **Q. DO YOU QUESTION OTHER CONCLUSIONS MADE BY OPUC STAFF IN**  
22       **THAT SAME TESTIMONY?**

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<sup>2</sup> The Loan Program provided loans to 6 of the 14 applicants. Three of the six loans were for projects between 3 MW and 10 MW.

1 A. Yes. We disagree with the following premise in Staff's testimony at

2 Staff/100/Bless/37, lines 13-15:

3 Staff reasoned that a large, sophisticated developer capable of  
4 procuring the latest offering from these vendors is likely capable of  
5 negotiating a PPA.

6 First, our QF loan applicants have not been large project developers. They  
7 have been independent entities without the support of any large, sophisticated,  
8 well-capitalized development company. Second, our QF loan applicants have  
9 exhibited a broad range of experience and sophistication. Based on our  
10 discussions with QF loan applicants, we believe that all developers of QF  
11 projects up to 10 MW, regardless of sophistication, will need to retain legal  
12 counsel to negotiate a PPA.

13 **Q. WHY DO YOU BELIEVE THAT ALL SMALL QFS, REGARDLESS OF**  
14 **SOPHISTICATION, NEED LEGAL SUPPORT TO NEGOTIATE**  
15 **CONTRACTS?**

16 A. The Loan Program reviewed our QF loan history and interviewed several QF  
17 developers. Even our most experienced and sophisticated QF developer was  
18 very adamant about needing legal assistance in negotiating a PPA. We  
19 learned that PPA negotiation experience and expertise, and especially legal  
20 experience and expertise in that area, are specialized and expensive.

21 At least until the Loan Program had gained practical experience in financing  
22 QFs with negotiated PPAs, we would not take the risk of financing a QF project  
23 that did not have the requisite legal representation in negotiating the PPA.

24



1 **Q. ARE THERE OTHER PORTIONS OF OPUC STAFF TESTIMONY TO WHICH**  
2 **YOU WANT TO REPLY?**

3 A. Yes. Staff states at Staff/100/Bless/38, lines 1-3:

4 Staff also notes that the solar, biomass and small hydro in PGE,  
5 PacifiCorp and Idaho Power's current portfolios are, for the most  
6 part, well under 3 MW.

7 While the utilities' current portfolios of small hydro may consist mainly of  
8 projects under 3 MW, a substantial amount of the small hydropower  
9 development in Oregon has been between 3 MW and 10 MW.

10 **Q. HOW WOULD A 3 MW CAP FOR STANDARD AVOIDED COSTS AND**  
11 **STANDARD CONTRACTS FOR QFS AFFECT HYDRO PROJECTS?**

12 A. A 3 MW cap on standard avoided cost prices and standard contracts would, in  
13 particular, affect irrigation canal projects and facilities added to non-power  
14 dams. Siting energy facilities on existing water infrastructure is the next wave  
15 of hydropower development due to its low environmental footprint and co-  
16 benefits. Promoting this development is one of the strategic water goals of the  
17 State under the 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy.<sup>3</sup>

18 Recent development history and the permitting pipeline show that a common  
19 scale of hydro project development in Oregon is between 3 MW to 10 MW.

20 There are two 5 MW irrigation projects in Central Oregon: Central Oregon  
21 Irrigation District's Juniper Ridge project, which began operating in 2010, and  
22 the 45-Mile project on North Unit Irrigation Canal, which is still under

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<sup>3</sup> Oregon's 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy, at  
[http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/LAW/docs/IWRS\\_Final.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/LAW/docs/IWRS_Final.pdf).

See Action 4B: Take Advantage of Existing Infrastructure to Develop Hydroelectric Power, page 49.

1 development. In addition, projects on existing federal dams in Oregon tend to  
2 have a nameplate capacity greater than 3 MW. For example, a new 8.3 MW  
3 facility will complete construction on Dorena Lake Dam in 2013. FERC issued  
4 a license for a 10 MW facility on Applegate Dam in 2009. PGE is currently  
5 proposing a 6 MW facility on Bowman Dam. Baker County is pursuing a 3.4  
6 MW facility on Mason Dam. The Loan Program had financing discussions with  
7 all of these projects except for the Dorena Lake Dam and the PGE Bowman  
8 Dam.

9 **Q. COULD YOU SUMMARIZE YOUR REPLY TESTIMONY ON THE ISSUE OF**  
10 **ELIGIBILITY CAP FOR STANDARD CONTRACTS?**

11 A. The Department agrees with many other parties that the 10 MW eligibility cap  
12 for the standard contract should not be changed. Reducing the cap from 10  
13 MW to 3 MW would almost certainly reduce the number of QF projects  
14 developed in Oregon. Had Commission Order No. 05-584 set a 3 MW cap  
15 rather than 10 MW, the Loan Program would have financed 50 percent fewer  
16 loans. It is not the sophistication of the QF developer that is important, but  
17 rather the time, uncertainty and costs that negotiating a PPA would introduce  
18 into the QF development and financing process that would reduce small QF  
19 development in Oregon. The balance the Commission sought in Order No. 05-  
20 584 between encouraging QF development and protecting ratepayers is best  
21 struck by retaining the 10 MW cap and making appropriate adjustments to the  
22 avoided cost prices to more accurately reflect the true costs and benefits of

1 adding QFs to the electric companies' systems. ODOE witness Phil Carver  
2 makes recommendations for such price adjustments in his reply testimony.

3 **Q. HOW DOES THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVE STANDARD QF CONTRACTS**  
4 **SHOULD ADDRESS MECHANICAL AVAILAILABILITY? (ISSUE 6E)**

5 A. We appreciate the efforts underway among the parties to resolve this issue.

6 The Department believes the resolution should adhere to the following  
7 principles:

8 1) Contract termination should not be the penalty for occasionally missing  
9 availability requirements. The Loan Program will not finance QFs if the PPA  
10 includes such a termination clause. (The Loan Program believes that chronic  
11 lack of availability and other contract non-performance by a QF is an entirely  
12 different matter, and acknowledges the utilities' potential need in those  
13 circumstances, which should be spelled out and well understood ahead of time,  
14 to sever its contractual relationship with such a QF.)

15 2) Any liquidated damages that the utility may assess a small QF:

- 16 • Should be based on the actual harm to the utility
- 17 • Should not in and of themselves imperil the ongoing economic vitality  
18 of the QF
- 19 • Should only be instituted after the QF has been properly notified and  
20 given ample opportunity for restitution

21 3) All three electric companies should adopt similar requirements.

22 Based on what we believe to be good faith efforts from all sides, the Loan  
23 Program is inclined to defer to other parties with first-hand experience

1           operating and maintaining small generating projects to recommend specific  
2           mechanical availability guarantee percentages and number of allowable hours  
3           for scheduled maintenance.

4           **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

5           A. Yes.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on April 29, 2013, I served the foregoing Reply Testimonies in Docket UM 1610 upon all parties of record in this proceeding by electronic mail only as all parties have waived paper service.

OPUC Dockets  
Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon  
610 SW Broadway, Suite. 400  
Portland, OR 97205  
dockets@oregoncub.org

Oregon Dockets  
Pacifcorp, dba Pacific Power  
825 NE Multnomah Street, Suite.  
2000  
Portland OR 97232  
oregondockets@pacifcorp.com

Regulatory Dockets  
Idaho Power Company  
PO Box 70  
Boise ID 83707-0070  
dockets@idahopower.com

RNP Dockets  
Renewable Northwest Project  
421 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite. 1125  
Portland OR 97204  
dockets@rnp.org

Paul D. Ackerman (C)  
Exelon Business Services company,  
LLC  
100 Constellation Way Suite. 500C  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
paul.ackerman@constellation.com

Gregory M. Adams (C)  
Richardson & O'Leary  
PO Box 7218  
Boise ID 83702  
greg@richardsonandoleary.com

Daren Anderson  
Northwest Energy Systems  
Company LLC  
1800 NE 8<sup>th</sup> St., Ste. 320  
Bellevue, WA 98004-1600  
da@thenescogroup.com

Brittany Andrus (C)  
Public Utility Commission of  
Oregon  
PO Box 2148  
Salem OR 97308-2148  
brittany.andrus@state.or.us

Stephanie S. Andrus (C)  
PUC Staff--Department of Justice  
Business Activities Section  
1162 Court St NE  
Salem OR 97301-4096  
stephanie.andrus@state.or.us

James Birkelund (C)  
Small Business Utility Advocates  
548 Market St. Ste. 11200  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
james@utilityadvocates.org

Adam Bless (C)  
Public Utility Commission of  
Oregon  
PO Box 2148  
Salem OR 97308-2148  
adam.bless@state.or.us

Kacia Brockman (C)  
Oregon Department of Energy  
625 Marion St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
kacia.brockman@state.or.us

J. Laurence Cable  
Cable Huston Benedict Haagensen  
& Lloyd LLP  
1001 SW Fifth Ave. – Suite 2000  
Portland, OR 97204-1136  
lcable@cablehuston.com

Will K. Carey  
Annala, Carey, Baker, et al., PC  
Po Box 325  
Hood River, OR 97031  
wcarey@hoodriverattorneys.com

R. Bryce Dalley (C)  
Pacific Power  
825 NE Multnomah St., Suite 2000  
Portland OR 97232  
bryce.dalley@pacifcorp.com

Melinda J. Davison (C)  
Davison Van Cleave PC  
333 SW Taylor, Suite 400  
Portland OR 97204  
mjd@dvclaw.com  
mail@dvclaw.com

Megan Walseth Decker (C)  
Renewable Northwest Project  
421 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave #1125  
Portland OR 97204-1629  
megan@rnp.org

Bill Eddie (C)  
One Energy Renewables  
206 NR 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland OR 97232  
bill@oneenergyrenewables.com

Loyd Fery  
11022 Rainwater Lane SE  
Aumsville, OR 97325  
dlchain@wvi.com

Diane Henkels (C)  
CleanTech Law Partners PC  
6228 SW Hood  
Portland OR 97239  
dhenkels@actionnet.net

Matt Krumenauer (C)  
Oregon Department of Energy  
625 Marion St NE  
Salem OR 97301  
matt.krumenauer@state.or.us

Jeffrey S. Lovinger (C)  
Lovinger Kaufmann LLP  
825 NE Multnomah Suite 925  
Portland, OR 97232-2150  
lovinger@lklaw.com

Mike McArthur  
Association of OR Counties  
PO Box 12729  
Salem, OR 97309  
mmcarthur@aocweb.org

Thomas H. Nelson  
PO Box 1211  
Welches OR 97067-1211  
nelson@thnelson.com

Elaine Prause  
Energy Trust of Oregon  
421 SW Oak St. #300  
Portland, OR 97204-1817  
elaine.prause@energytrust.org

Toni Roush  
Roush Hydro Inc.  
355 E Water  
Stayton, OR 97383  
tmroush@wvi.com

J. Richard George (C)  
Portland General Electric Company  
121 SW Salmon St. 1WTC1301  
Portland OR 97204  
richard.george@pgn.com

Robert Jenks (C)  
Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon  
610 SW Broadway, Suite 400  
Portland, OR 97205  
bob@oregoncub.org

David A. Lokting  
Stoll Berne  
209 SW Oak Street, Suite 500  
Portland, OR 97204  
dlokting@stollberne.com

John Lowe  
Renewable Energy Coalition  
12050 SW Tremont Street  
Portland OR 97225-5430  
jravenesanmarcos@yahoo.com

G. Catroina McCracken (C)  
Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon  
610 SW Broadway, Suite 400  
Portland, OR 97205  
catriona@oregoncub.org

Kathleen Newman  
Oregonians for Renewable Energy  
Policy  
1553 NR Greensword Dr.  
Hillsboro OR 97214  
kathleenoipl@frontier.com  
k.a.newman@frontier.com

Lisa F. Rackner (C)  
McDowell Rackner & Gibson PC  
419 SW 11th Ave., Suite 400  
Portland OR 97205  
dockets@mcd-law.com

Irion A. Sanger (C)  
Davison Van Cleve  
333 SW Taylor - Suite 400  
Portland OR 97204  
ias@dvclaw.com

John Harvey (C)  
Exelon Wind LLC  
4601 Westtown Parkway, Suite 300  
West Des Moines, IA 50266  
john.harvey@exeloncorp.com

Kenneth Kaufmann (C)  
Lovinger Kaufmann LLP  
825 NE Multnomah Ste. 925  
Portland, OR 97232-2150  
kaufmann@lklaw.com

Richard Lorenz (C)  
Cable Huston Benedict Haagensen &  
Lloyd LLP  
1001 SW Fifth Ave. – Suite 2000  
Portland, OR 97204-1136  
rlorenz@cablehuston.com

Adam Lowney (C)  
McDowell Rackner & Givson PC  
419 SW 11<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 400  
Portland, OR 97205  
adam@mcd-law.com

Glenn Montgomery  
Oregon Solar Energy Industries  
Association  
PO Box 14927  
Portland OR 97293  
glenn@oseia.org

Mark Pete Pengilly  
PO Box 10221  
Portland OR 97296  
mpengilly@gmail.com

Peter J. Richardson (C)  
Richardson & O'Leary PLLC  
PO Box 7218  
Boise ID 83707  
peter@richardsonandoleary.com

Donald W. Schoenbeck (C)  
Regulatory & Cogeneration Services,  
Inc.  
900 Washington Street, Suite 780  
Vancouver WA 98660-3455  
dws@r-c-s-inc.com

John W. Stephens (C)  
Esler Stephens & Buckley  
888 SW Fifth Ave Suite 700  
Portland OR 97204-2021  
stephens@eslerstephens.com  
mec@eslerstephens.com

Chad M. Stokes  
Cable Huston Benedict Haagensen  
& Lloyd LLP  
1001 SW Fifth Ave. – Suite 2000  
Portland, OR 97204-1136  
cstokes@cablehuston.com

Jay Tinker (C)  
Portland General Electric  
121 SW Salmon St 1WTC-0702  
Portland OR 97204  
Pge.opuc.filings@pgn.com

David Tooze  
City of Portland – Planning &  
Sustainability  
1900 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Suite 7100  
Portland, OR 97201  
david.tooze@portlandoregon.gov

S. Bradley Van Cleve (C)  
Davison Van Cleve PC  
333 SW Taylor - Suite 400  
Portland OR 97204  
bvc@dvclaw.com

John M. Volkman  
Energy Trust of Oregon  
421 SW Oak St. #300  
Portland, OR 97204  
john.volkman@energytrust.org

Donovan E. Walker (C)  
Idaho Power Company  
PO Box 70  
Boise ID 83707-0070  
dwalker@idahopower.com

Mary Wiencke (C)  
Pacific Power  
825 NE Multnomah St, Suite 1800  
Portland OR 97232-2149  
mary.wiencke@pacificcorp.com

(C)=Confidential



Renee M. France  
Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Natural Resources Section